

October 15, 2020



Pastor, Rev. Sharon Kichline
Assistant Pastor, Joshua Krakos
Music Ministry, Lamar Fitzgerald
Youth Ministry, Pastor Paige Foster
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WUM Newsletter Deadline

We welcome news of your ministries! We are starting to get back to some normal routines at the church including the publication of our newsletter. All articles and submissions sent to secretary@websterum.org by **Mondays at 10a** will be included in that week's newsletter. Please make every effort to meet this deadline. Thank you! –Pastor Sharon



Every week, the office will be closed to everyone from Wednesday 6p to Thursday 10a. This will allow Holly access to the office to do work that needs to be completed every week. In order to protect our staff, there will be no foot traffic in the church office during those hours.

Thank you! -Pastor Sharon/SPRC



Our calendar is important for us to schedule different groups' times and places in our church building...Be sure to email Holly in the office to schedule usage! Secretary@websterum.org



...a message from Pastor Sharon

*"I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart;
I will glorify your name forever!"
Psalm 86:12*

We are called Methodists for a reason.

The term has its roots in eighteenth century Anglicanism. Its founder was a Church of England minister, John Wesley (1703-1791), who sought to challenge the religious assumptions of the day. During his time studying at Oxford, he and others met regularly for Bible study and prayer, to receive communion and do acts of charity. They became known as 'The Holy Club' or 'Methodists' because of the methodical way in which they carried out their Christian faith. It was meant to be a job, not a compliment. But John Wesley later adopted the term 'Methodist' himself to mean the methodical pursuit of biblical holiness. It is through daily and weekly practice that we praise the Lord our God with all our heart!

As part of our discipleship, each year we recommit ourselves to the five pillars of a faithful community: our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. And so it is now that time of year when we ask our faith family (members and those who feel like this is their church) to prayerfully consider how you are living out your faith, and how you plan to grow it next year.



It is by these means of support, (our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness), that the church, the Body of Christ, can fully function. After all, if there's one thing we have learned this year, it is that YOU are the church, not the bricks and mortar of the building. Without YOU, we cannot BE the church.

The most wonderful news is how you have been incredibly generous in sending in your financial pledges since March, when we became physically separated from one another. Thank you so much for your faithfulness! Because of you, we have been able to continue to support the children, youth, young adults and families whom

we are called to love in the name of Christ, and we have not had to lay off any of our staff.

So we are asking, if you are able, to recommit to your 2020 pledge for yet another year, through 2021. We are also adjusting the Presence commitment to include one of four different ways to “be present” with one another.

Because of the weirdness of this very strange year, we will be carrying out our stewardship program entirely by mail, or walk in/drop off into Pastor Sharon’s basket. Soon you will receive your commitment cards, and I ask you to pray about it, and then fill it out and return it to the church in the self-stamped and addressed envelope by November 1st, All Saints Sunday. We are working on planning a safe celebration for that day, and will share the details soon.

This has been an extraordinary year, my friends. But you are extraordinary people.

Grace and peace+

Pastor Sharon



WINTER WARMING ACT I



INEXCELSIS IS COLLECTING
NEW AND GENTLY USED
ITEMS FOR THE UNHOUSED.

01 to 31
OCTOBER 2020

IT
ITEMS
NEEDED

- GLOVES
- HATS
- WINTER BOOTS
- COATS
- AIR MATTRESSES
- THICK SOCKS
- SLEEPING BAGS
- BLANKETS
- HANDWARMERS
- EARMUFFS
- SCARVES

CONTACTS: 314.578.5877
314.704.8723

Leave your gifts of warmth for those who are likely to spend the winter out on the streets in the elevator foyer at the church. Thank you! --InExcelsis



Eden Festival of Psalms/CROP Walk and Concert

The Eden Seminary Festival of Psalms will be broadcast as a Facebook Live Premier Event on Sunday, October 25 at 7:00 p. m. **It is free, but you must register**, which one can do at the following website:

<https://www.eden.edu/events/festival-of-psalms/>

Once you have registered, you will be sent a link to use on the evening of the 25th.

The Festival of Psalms is also the **4th Annual CROP Concert**; and again, this year the concert will feature Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, Christopher Grundy, Paul Vasile, Jacob Nault, Rabbi James Stone Goodman, and a host of other nationally and internationally known musicians.

There is further information on CROP at the following website: www.crophungerwalk.org/saintlouismo

This site also contains ways to participate in the CROP Walk and/or to donate to Church World Service.



Pray for Election Day 2020

Lay pastor Ivan James has been watching with concern the national dialogue as the country nears the November 3 election. Deepening political divisions in America and the fear that votes won't get counted have eroded civil discourse. Pastor James felt he had no other choice than to turn to God and begin a period of intense prayer leading up to the election. Leaning on the



to

connectional nature of The United Methodist Church, Pastor James began to invite all United Methodists in Missouri to pray daily in the 30 days leading up to the presidential election. One of his calls was to Bishop Bob Farr who accepted the challenge.

“It is part of the pastoral duty to pray for our leaders and all those who govern,” said Bishop Farr. “I’ve accepted Pastor Ivan James’ invitation to pray daily in the month leading up to our nation’s election and I invite you to join our efforts to invite the Holy Spirit to work in and among us as we move toward a free and fair election.”

While those who follow Jesus understand that their allegiance to God takes precedence over our allegiance to any state, United Methodists also acknowledge the vital function of government as a principal vehicle for the ordering of society. For more on what United Methodists believe about the Political Community, see ¶164 in The Book of Discipline 2016 (p. 138-142). In 1774, Methodism’s founder John Wesley offered powerful advice regarding a Christian’s role in voting: 1.) Vote your conscience, 2.) Do not slander the opponent of the individual you voted for; and 3.) Do not allow voting to disrupt Christian unity. Pastor James and

Bishop Farr call upon all United Methodists in Missouri to engage in political responsibility while adhering to Wesley's guidance.

It's never too late to start praying. Follow us on Instagram, [@moumethodist](https://www.instagram.com/moumethodist), for daily prayer topics and reminders.



New Sermon Series:



Week 1: IN Connection
Week 2: IN Support
Week 3: IN Relationship
Week 4: ALL IN!



**Do you have medical equipment that is not being used?
Do you need medical equipment?
Now there is HELP...**

ST. LOUIS HELP
Health Equipment Lending Program

(314) 240-0796

St. Louis HELP loans the donated home medical items to anyone in need, at no cost. We will only accept donations of manual wheelchairs, shower chairs, tub

transfer benches, canes/crutches/walkers, Rollators (seated walkers), grab bars, elevated toilet seats, portable commodes, lift chairs, seating cushions/back supports, folding ramps, diapers/ bed pads and Invacare brand only electric hospital beds, –these items only, please.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DONATION DRIVE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH
9 AM through 2 PM

Clean the attic, garage or basement and make a tax-deductible donation of your medical equipment at one of the designated drop off locations on October 24th

Assumption Catholic Church
4725 Mattis Road, 63128
(South of Lemay Ferry on Mattis)

New Covenant Church
1401 Timberlake Manor Pkwy, 63017
(40 Outer Road & Timberlake Manor)

Webster Groves City Hall
4 E. Lockwood, 63119
(Lockwood & Elm)

Urgent Care
8612 Olive Blvd., 63132
(Olive & McKnight)

St. Louis HELP
6546 Manchester Road, 63139
(East of McCausland & Manchester)



What About Lord's Acre in 2020?

Our Lord's Acre Reinvented Event has received some great donations as awards for several giving levels which we'd like to share this week. Remember that the money we raise goes to support our Mozambique covenant of \$1400 as well as much-needed support for LifeWise, Epworth, Webster Rock Hill Ministries, and other ministries. The donation weeks are just a month away now, November 8-November 21. Every person or family who donates something will be entered in the Lord's Acre Grand Prize Drawing for a Christmas-themed quilt suitable for hanging, hand quilted with embroidered designs by the women in our quilting group.

At the present, here are the giving levels for which we have awards:

- ✓ **\$40 level, Buckeye Brownies, or Peanut Brittle, homemade by Ellen Hendrickson**

- ✓ \$45 level, 3 outfits of doll clothes & mask fit American Girl or any 18" doll, handmade by Sharon Wershing
- ✓ \$60 level, jar of Wild Grape or Cherry Jelly, homemade by Gene Morse (8 available)
- ✓ \$65 level, winter-themed wool table runner with charming details, handmade by Sharon Wershing
- ✓ \$75 level, embroidered pillow and bag, handmade by Sharon Wershing
- ✓ \$100 level, homemade pie of choice from Cindy Andrews, Sherry Bryan, or Lettie Morse
- ✓ \$200 level, handcrafted birdhouse by Gene Morse (6 available)
- ✓ \$400 level, Riverlands Sanctuary Vacation Home weekend, gift from Sandra Hoffman (2 available)

We are certainly grateful for any and all donations, but with a limit of 1 award per person/family.

Additionally, you can order dinner from Panera in Webster Groves on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 4-8PM and the restaurant will donate 20% of the pre-tax sales to the Lord's Acre Event. We plan to take orders for carry-out & will deliver them if desired. More about this in the next newsletter.

Please prayerfully consider how you can be involved in this year's Lord's Acre. Contact Jan McCurley with questions at 781-3969, 378-5504, or Janis.mccurley@gmail.com

Pictured below (L to R):

Peanut brittle, Buckeye brownies, Christmas quilt, Riverlands house—1 dining room w/view & 1 river view at sunset, Jars of jelly, birdhouses, doll clothes (3 outfits in 1 pic), blue table runner w/snowman, embroidered pillow & bag.



To my WUM family,

Thank you so much for the calls and cards. Your care and concern have brought me so much joy at this time. I am not feeling too bad, a little tired, but taking life day by day and taking every opportunity to spend time with my grandkids.

Gayle Fields



THANK YOU!

We want to take a minute and thank each and every one of you who has cooked a meal or said prayers for our family while I (Traci) was down from my surgery. I feel amazing and I am now able to walk and do things around the house. I am glad to say after a month I am down 27lbs and steadily losing. I feel great and I am getting stronger every day. So thank you everyone who helped our family!

Thank you,
Traci & Sandy



Hello Church,

As promised I would like to keep you all up to date on the many small group opportunities that we are presenting in the Young Adult Ministries. Please keep in mind that some of these small groups are just for young adults (18-35) and some are open to the whole church. If you are interested in any of these small groups please let me know at assistantpastor@websterum.org or find me at the Mountain Service!

Small groups open to the entire church:

- **Forming Faith** (Mondays @8: 00 PM on Zoom): Bible Study for all ages meant for those who are trying to build or better understand a foundation of faith and scriptural literacy.

- **Mountain Service** (Thursdays @7:30PM in Sanctuary): A new service for all people which will now be meeting inside with robust social distancing following CDC guidelines and city ordinances. Please bring a mask!
- **Community Garden planning group** (TBD please inquire): We are looking for a team to help the Young Adults bring together a WUM community garden. Please send an email if you are interested!
- **Street Sanctuary** (Every last Sunday of the month @11: 00 AM at Little Sisters of the Poor) This is an alternative service designed for the homeless and displaced at Little Sisters of the Poor in Ferguson. We are looking for volunteers to help the Mountain Service band.

Small Groups designed for young adults (18-35)

- **Sustainable Gardening for Beginners** (Mondays @6: 30 PM on Zoom) We met all summer learning how to garden and respect intersectionality within the environment. Now for the winter, we will be meeting on Zoom to discuss more on community gardens, environmental justice, and more!
- **Politics in the Church** (TBD please inquire): This will be a new small group class being taught about politics within the United Methodist Church and about Methodism as a whole. We will be discussing the different conference levels, policies, the Book of Discipline, and much more! Please email if you are interested!
- **Advent Prayer Group** (TBD please inquire): This will be a small prayer group that meets during Advent to pray once a week. Please inquire if you are interested.

A lot is going on within Young Adult ministries right now. We are thankful for the congregation's continued support as we become one of the largest young adult ministries in the state!

Blessings,
Pastor Joshua



Vote NO on Amendment 3

Leading up to the 2018 November election, we were part of a coalition that worked successfully to get Amendment 2: Clean Missouri approved by 62% of

Missouri voters. Clean Missouri institutes election reforms, importantly a process by which a non-partisan demographer appointed by the State Auditor, draws up districts, continuing to use the actual number of all residents, but with a focus on fairness, competitiveness, and compactness which are then reviewed by the legislature. As of now, very few districts are competitive, resulting in mostly partisan controlled safe districts, often unrepresentative of the voters who live there.

Amendment 3 would return the redistricting process to partisan control and make drastic changes for drawing districts. Most importantly, it requires that only "registered voters" be counted for apportionment, rather than the current requirement (used by all states) that all residents be counted. Because both suburban and urban areas would be disproportionately affected, once again communities of color especially lose out in representation in the political process. Additionally, citizens could no longer challenge the composition of districts and even judges would be severely restricted in challenging district mapping.

Don't be misled by the opening language relating to lobbyists' gifts and contribution limits. These reductions are minimal compared to the changes already in place from Amendment 2 and serve to obscure the radically undemocratic change in redistricting.

The Justice Team invites you to join us in voting **NO on Amendment 3** and spreading the word.

References: cleanmissouri.org; SL Post Dispatch editorial 10/4/20

Carolyn Redmore
Justice Team Chair





Youth News!—from Pastor Paige

Our new day for meeting is Sunday!
Same time, 5:30-7:30p.

This Sunday, October 18th, we will be carving and decorating pumpkins! Bring your best ideas and a friend.

October Calendar is out!

Blessings, soap & water,
Pastor Paige directoryouth@websterum.org



Trunk or Treat 2020 style!

Bring all of your ghouls and goblins to our family friendly, drive-thru trunk or



treat! It will be on October 30th from 5:30-7:30p, right here in the church parking lot.

Masks are required and costumes are encouraged. There will be candy, a photo opportunity, and a haunted forest, all from the comfort of your own car. We need candy and trunks!

There is a box for your candy donations in the elevator foyer.

If you would like to host a trunk, click here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0944a9ae2ea0ff2-trunk>"

Bible Presentations

We will be doing a Bible presentation for our children on October 29th at 7:20pm. Typically, this is a celebration for our third graders, but it seems it's been a while since we have presented Bibles to our kids. So we are extending the invitation to all fourth and fifth graders who have not yet received their church Bible. Come for the Bibles, stay for a night of worship at our Mountain Service! If you would like for your child to receive a bible, please email me at directorchildren@websterum.org

Children's Gathering

On October 24th at 2pm there will be an outdoor, socially-distanced gathering for children 4-12 years of age in the church parking lot. There will be music, games, and some fun fall activities. Masks required, and will be provided if needed.

Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/outdoor-childrens-gathering-tickets-125018885853>


Thanks,

Shaeleigh Parsons

directorchildren@websterum.org



My Dear Friends,

I am working from home and I can access the church email from here! ***So please, keep on writing and sending your information so that I can keep the calendar up to date and the newsletter current.*** I  love hearing from you!

It is imperative that if you are planning on **scheduling a gathering**, whether outside in the parking lot, or anywhere in the building, you inform the office (secretary@websterum.org) so we can respect social distancing of groups.

We welcome you, but we still need to keep a distance between people and groups by scheduling on the calendar. Please remember that everyone needs to wear a mask and sanitize all surfaces where you meet (before and after your meeting)! We will be sure to leave products for you to use in your areas.

Also, please email either Pastor Sharon or me your prayer concerns and thanksgivings. We publish our current prayer list every week as always. It is good to keep our church family connected.

Stay home and stay well,

Holly

PS: We will continue to worship together through Facebook on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm and on Sunday mornings at 10:30am.

We are moving The **Mountain Service into the Sanctuary, beginning October 15th. Bring your mask and expect a temp check and usher seating.**



Sympathy to and prayers for the family and friends of Ramey Hidalgo and to his girlfriend, Madalyn (niece of Kristen Kremer)

Memorial Service

Friends and family are invited to celebrate the life of Anita Bledsoe, Saturday, Oct 24 on the church parking lot at 10:30am. Chairs provided. Masks required.

Our Prayer Concerns: Scott & Margie Andrews, Henry & Emily Andrews (Cindy Andrews); Jacque (Linda Austin); Lorraine Bemis; Doris Thomas, (Randy Thomas); Kristen Kremer; Traci Stuart, Richard (Beth Anderson); Skip Reynolds (John and Sharon Wersching); Peter Schüren (Debbie Lund); Gayle Fields; Todd (Gordon Ballam); Sherry Dodd, Mia (Paula Murphy); Carol and Jim Simpson (Clarke Montford); Henry Copeland (Jon Copeland); Dorothy Reid (Sandy Reid); Darlene Hyry, Henry Hoyer (Vicki Hoyer); Victor Browning (Janet Iggulden); Andrew Kennon and family, Amanda Kohlfeld (Marcia Kennon); Joe Krabbe and family; Mary Felden Peters; Jodi and Chris Medieta (Joel Kichline); George and Norena Badway (Toni Miceli's parents); Jo Ann and Pat Claywell; Joyce and Scott Simpson family; Ariana (Jan Hanson); Stuart / Reesor family; Sally Cobb; Libbi Pacatte; those quarantined in close quarters; Amanda and Caleb Sawyer (Debbie Brooks daughter and husband); Sherry Bryan; John and Carolyn Denison in Lake Charles, LA (Carolyn Redmore's brother and sister-in-law); Ryanlyn Mathis; Health and Healing for COVID patients; our country's future; Students and Teachers; people suffering through natural disasters; for workers who bring us food; for healthcare providers.

To have your prayer requests included, please contact us using the:

- Connection Card located on our website,
- Prayer Request form on our website,
- Email secretary@websterum.org
- Contact one of our pastors:
 - Pastor Josh at assistantpastor@websterum.org
 - Pastor Paige at directoryouth@websterum.org
 - Pastor Sharon at pastorsharon@websterum.org